Mississippi Office of Homeland Security Awarded \$100 Million Grant

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JACKSON – The Mississippi Office of Homeland announced today the grant award of \$100 million to the state of Mississippi to provide a statewide system of interoperable emergency communications and allow a more coordinated response during times of crisis.

The award is intended to carry out initiatives to improve interoperable emergency communications, including communications in collective response to natural disasters, acts of terrorism and other manmade disasters.

This award represents the largest single grant by the US Department of Homeland Security to any recipient.

"While certainly a boon to local jurisdictions, this statewide communications system is instrumental when confronted with the challenges of talking city-to-city, county-to-county, or state-to-state during any disaster. This money will enable our state to further improve public safety agencies' interoperable communications capabilities through the Mississippi Wireless Integrated Network (MSWIN) system that utilizes the 700 MHz band for radio communication," said Director of the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security J.W. Ledbetter.

The MOHS wants to thank all of our U.S. Representatives, our two U.S. Senators, Governor Haley Barbour, and the many staff and state employees that made this award possible.

To learn more about the Mississippi Wireless Communication Commission or the Mississippi Wireless Integrated Network, visit www.wcc.ms.gov. To learn more about the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security log on to www.homelandsecurity.ms.gov.